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THE Y IN CENTRAL MARYLAND  
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY • BALTIMORE CITY • BALTIMORE COUNTY • CARROLL COUNTY • HARFORD COUNTY • HOWARD COUNTY

March 9, 2021

Capital Budget Hearing  
Senate & House Capital Budget Subcommittee

Senator Doug Peters, Chair  
Senate Capital Budget Subcommittee  
120 James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair  
House Capital Budget Subcommittee  
151 House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairmen and Members of the Capital Budget Subcommittee:

On behalf of the Y in Central Maryland, I would like to extend sincere appreciation for your ongoing support throughout the years for the Y, and in particular for our capital projects in Baltimore City. I would like to thank you for your approval of the \$1 million capital grant in last year's Maryland capital budget and would ask for your favorable review and approval of an additional \$565,000 that the Governor was kind enough to include in the FY22 capital budget proposal.

The successful completion of our Baltimore City capital campaign, focused on three important projects, will allow us to further deepen our already extensive investment in facilities and programs for young people, families and seniors in Baltimore City.

- Project 1: We have raised and invested \$1.1 million for significant improvements at the historic **Druid Hill Y** in West Baltimore. These improvements have allowed us to greatly improve accessibility to the building and to significantly upgrade the main floor, all of which helps us to better serve the youth, families and seniors in this underserved community;
- Project 2: We have raised \$3.2 million of the \$7.2 million needed to complete a significant set of improvements to the **Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Y in Waverly** (which is located at the former Memorial Stadium site). We've been able to complete the first phase of improvements, which along with all of the remaining work will allow us to expand youth development and health and wellness space; build a new and expanded early childhood center and add a camp pavilion;
- Project 3: We have raised \$3.8 million of the \$14 million needed to create **a new Y in Southwest Baltimore**, in partnership with St. Agnes Hospital, an adaptive reuse development of two of the buildings making up the former Cardinal Gibbons High School.

Last year's capital grant was instrumental in helping us to complete our Druid Hill Y project as well as further advance the Weinberg Y project. We and those communities very much appreciate it. As stated above, we're respectfully requesting your approval of an additional \$565,000 included in the Governor's FY22 capital budget. These funds will be used to help us advance both the Weinberg Y expansion and the new Y project in Southwest Baltimore.



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In total, we have raised over \$8.6 million in capital campaign pledges (inclusive of undesignated gifts not reflected above), as well as significant pledged operating support, through private donations for these three capital projects. We are grateful for the generosity of our donors and supporters, and would very much appreciate further assistance from the Maryland General Assembly so we can be able to do even more to serve Baltimore City's youth, families and seniors.

We have forged ahead with these projects, in the face of the serious challenges that COVID-19 has posed to our community and to our Y. Despite a significant loss in membership and program revenue this past year, and being ineligible for any of the federal PPP funding, we at the Y have nonetheless stepped up in a major way to partner with Maryland's State Department of Education to serve the childcare needs of first responders (averaging over 500 children a week) when everything in the state closed down in March, to serve Maryland's families by establishing Y academic support centers as local school districts have gone to virtual learning, and to address the rising levels of food insecurity across the state by distributing over 500,000 meals from our various Y locations.

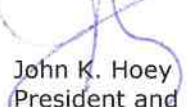
This remains a most critical time for the Y to see these projects to be completed in Baltimore City. State support will help address some of the city's most pressing issues in the areas that we have the greatest capacity to effect systemic and sustainable change. Our capital campaign will provide more assets in support of the Y's youth development work, including our wide array of mentoring, community schools and afterschool programming focused on closing the achievement gap and preparing many of our most marginalized youth for college and career.

The Y in Central Maryland has a 167-year history in Baltimore and the surrounding counties. We are deeply immersed across the city doing vital early childhood, community school, summer enrichment, after school, health and wellness, and youth sports work. These programs support over 20,000 Baltimoreans in some of the city's most challenging neighborhoods. Across the region, we operate 11 family centers, two swim centers, 30 summer camp sites, 40 Head Start sites, 6 preschool centers, 54 before and after school programs, 24 community school sites, and are responsible for over 750 mentoring relationships.

Our long history and great scale in the state is a testament to the power of our charitable mission, the quality of programs and services we provide throughout the region, and the value we consistently ensure for Maryland's investment in our organization. Thank you for your commitment to bettering our state and your support of the work we are doing to bettering the lives of underserved youth, children and families.

Should the subcommittee require any additional information pertaining to our capital campaign and/or the capital projects, please don't hesitate to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

  
John K. Hoey  
President and CEO  
The Y in Central Maryland

cc: Senator Craig Zucker, Vice-Chairman, Senate Capital Budget Subcommittee  
Delegate Mark Chang, Vice-Chairman, House Capital Budget Subcommittee  
Senate & House Capital Budget Subcommittee Members  
Neil L. Bergsman, Assistant Director, Maryland Department of Budget and Management, Office of Capital Budgeting